

THE E-WORD ON THE STREET

The Word on the Street Festival is a place where a new trend is emerging — the digital book. For the second year, Sony has marketed its Reader to bibliophiles at the annual Queen's Park festival of books and reading. The *Star's* **Katie Daubs** asked visitors about the future of printed books in a digital world.



JON MACINDOE, 25
Manager, Me to We Books

If we follow the newspaper trend, we'll see books moving online. We already print portions of our books on Amazon. I think that, like the music industry, there is going to be pressure on authors to make better content.



ALICE LUNDON, 70s
Publicity, Trinity College
book sales

I think there's still a wonderful future for books. Everyone likes to curl up in a chair and read a book — not a screen. And the rare books, they're so gorgeous, the pictures are so beautiful.



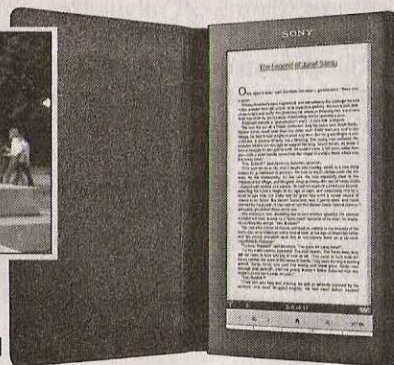
NICOLE MASSEY, 9
Pleasantville Public School

In the future, maybe the books will read to you. I want to read them like that (in my hand). We (Nicole and her brother) read them with a flashlight in our rooms. We can travel anywhere with a book. You don't have to bring a computer.



MARLENE FOGEL
High school VP

I will move toward digital books. You can have 400 books on there. For travel, you can even read it in the sun. The negative thing is the book signing — you know, you can't get an author's signature.



The bookish Reader has an interface that allows people to read downloaded books that cost less than their printed companions.



TERRY GREEN
Author/ teacher

Books will always be here. You have to have both. Internet is great for supplementing a book. The digital world is great for nonfiction. A book is art; it's texture. You can carry it anywhere.



EDWARD KAREK, 43
Toronto Public Library
spokesman

We think the future of the book is absolutely certain. We see our readership go up every year. We've had e-readers for five or six years, and they're not tremendously popular . . . yet.



MAGGI DOMAGALA, 12,
AND BELLA DOMAGALA, 10
Mother Cabrini Catholic

Maggi: I think you'll have to buy books for the iPod touch, but it's not a book, it's a computer screen. A book is better, it's portable, too. Bella: TV is taking over people's brains, not books.



BETH DUFFUS, 20
Student

Print is a medium that people are naturally drawn to. Books are where people go for solid, reliable information. I hate e-textbooks. I have one and it's hell. With digital, there's no guarantee, it's not real, it's not permanent.



MARY FRANCES
CAPPUCCITTI, 23
Printmaker

An e-book makes sense for mass-produced stuff. A cheap, good e-reader would make my life happy. . . . (But) you can't give it to your friends, the content is locked. That's so anti-book.